

SECRET TREATIES ARE NOT RECOGNIZED BY AMERICA

President Tells The World That Italy Has No Just Claim to Fiume.

SECRET TREATY OF LONDON CEASED TO BE EFFECTIVE WHEN AMERICA ENTERED WAR

All Conditions Have Changed Since Allies Made Compact With Italy and President Wilson as Spokesman of America, Will Insist Upon Just Peace Terms

Paris, April 23 (By the Associated Press).—President Wilson's emphatic declaration that he will not yield on the Adriatic question has created the most profound sensation in the peace conference. He has thrown down the gauntlet to the supporters of secret treaties in a manner which almost took away the breath of the delegates who have been urging compromises on point covered by many secret documents and at variance with the president's 14 points.

President Wilson's sweeping declaration, while aimed directly at the Adriatic problems, also reaches the Kiau Chau controversy, in which Japan relies on secret agreements made with Great Britain, France and Italy in 1917 to support her in her claim to the concessions held by Germany in Shantung.

The peace delegates generally regard President Wilson's statement as a challenge which once for all will dispose of the question whether secret documents of which many nations participating in the war were ignorant are to figure in the peace following an armistice in which all the allies' pledges gave no regard to secret treaties.

The Italian situation overshadowed all other questions throughout the day in Paris and was the sole subject of conversation in official and unofficial circles.

When it became known this morning that the Italian premier, Vittorio Orlando, was again absent from the session of the council of four, various rumors became current. Signor Orlando remained at Italian headquarters, but messengers carried him many notes.

Proposals and counterproposals were made between the members of the British, French and Italian delegations, and numerous stories of compromises were circulated. These were suddenly discredited by the issuance of President Wilson's statement, showing that the president was not a party to the proposed concessions, which were chiefly based on the supposition that Fiume could be given to Italy.

The idea, which had been prevalent in Paris that the Adriatic situation was a game of chess in which the most skillful diplomats would win, regardless of the armistice conditions, was suddenly banished by President Wilson's action.

Since Monday it had been generally known that he had prepared a statement which was presented on that day to the entire American delegation, and that the delegation had approved it. But there was no suspicion that his position was so unalterably against secret diplomacy.

Declarations by the members of the American delegation that the president would not yield on the matter of Fiume were regarded by most European diplomats and especially by the Italians, as part of a political game, until today, and even now many old school diplomats seem unable to comprehend what has happened.

A member of the Italian delegation said that the delegates would not leave Paris tonight. He did not know what action might be taken tomorrow.

Premier Orlando, Foreign Minister Sonnino and Salvatore Bassila, Antonio Salandra and Marquis Salvemini, the other Italian delegates have been in conference at their headquarters examining the situation created by the president's statement.

In issuing his official statement on the Adriatic question, President Wilson let it be known that he desired once again to call attention to the fact that there were certain well defined principles which have been accepted by the peoples of the world as the basis for a lasting peace. The United States delegation simply recalled this in order that there should be no deviation from these principles.

The text of the statement follows: "In view of the capital importance of the questions affected, and in order to throw all possible light upon what is involved in their settlement, I hope that the following statement will contribute to the final formation of opinion and to a satisfactory solution."

"When Italy entered the war she did so upon the basis of a definite private understanding with Great Britain and France, now known as the pact of London. Since that time the whole face of circumstances has been altered. Many other powers, great and small, have entered the struggle, with no knowledge of that private understanding."

"The Austro-Hungarian empire, then the enemy of Europe, and at whose expense the pact of London was to be kept in the event of victory, has gone to pieces and no longer exists."

"Not only that, but the several parts of that empire, it is agreed now by Italy and all her associates, are to be erected into independent states and associated in a league of nations, not with those who were recently our enemies, but with Italy herself and the powers that stood with Italy in the great war for liberty."

"We are to establish their liberty as well as our own. They are to be more the smaller States whose interests are henceforth to be safeguarded as scrupulously as the interests of the most powerful States."

"The war was ended, moreover, by proposing to Germany an armistice and peace which should be founded on certain clearly defined principles which set up a new order of right and justice. Upon these principles the peace with Germany has been conceived, not only, but formulated. Upon those principles it will be exerted. We can not ask the great body of powers to propose and effect peace with Austria and establish a new basis of independence and right in the states which originally constituted the Austro-Hungarian empire and in the states of the Balkan group and on principles another kind. We must apply the same principles to the settlement of Europe in those quarters that we have applied in the peace with Germany. It was upon the special avowal of those principles that the initiative for peace was taken. It is upon them that the whole structure of peace must rest."

"If those principles are to be adhered to, Fiume must serve as the outlet of the commerce, not of Italy, but of the land to the north and northeast of that port—Hungary, Bohemia, Rumania and the states of the new Jugo-Slav group. To assign Fiume to Italy would be to create the feeling that we have deliberately put the peril upon which all those countries chiefly depend for their access to the Mediterranean in the hands of a power of which it did not for man integral part and whose sovereignty if set up there, must inevitably seem foreign, not domestic or identified with the commercial and industrial life of the regions which the port must serve. It is for that reason, no doubt, that Fiume was not included in the pact of London but there definitely assigned to the Croats."

"And the reason why the line of the pact of London swept about many of the islands of the eastern coast of the Adriatic and around the portion of the Dalmatian coast which lies most open to that sea was not only that here and there on those islands, and here and there on that coast, there are bodies of people of Italian blood and connection but also, and no doubt chiefly, because it was felt that it was necessary for Italy to have a foothold amidst the channels of the Eastern Adriatic in order that she might make her own coasts safe against the naval aggression of Austria-Hungary."

"But Austria-Hungary no longer exists. It is proposed that the fortification which the Austrian government constructed there shall be razed and permanently destroyed."

"It is part also of the new plan of European order which centers in the league of nations that the new states erected there shall accept a limitation of armaments, which puts aggression out of question. There can be no fear of the unfair treatment of groups of Italian people there, because adequate guarantees will be given under international sanction, of the equal and equitable treatment of all racial or national minorities."

"In brief, every question associated with this settlement wears a new aspect—a new aspect given it by the very victory for right for which Italy has made the supreme sacrifice of blood and treasure. Italy, along with the four other great powers, has become one of the chief trustees of the new order which she has played so honorable a part in establishing."

"And on the north and northwest her natural frontiers are completely restored, along the whole sweep of the Alps from northwest to southeast to the very end of the Italian peninsula, including all the greater watersheds within which Trieste and Pola lie and all the fair regions whose face nature has turned towards the great peninsula upon which the historic life of the Latin people has been worked out through centuries of famous history ever since Rome was first set upon her seven hills."

"Her ancient unity is restored. Her lines are extended to the great walls which are her natural defense. It is within her choice to be surrounded by friends; to exhibit to the liberated peoples across the Adriatic that noblest quality of greatness, magnanimity, friendly generosity, the preference of justice over interest."

"The nations associated with her, the nations that know no, ing of the pact of London or of any other special understanding that lies at the beginning of this great struggle, and who have made their supreme sacrifice also in the interest, not of national advantage or defense but of the settled peace of the world, are now united with her older associates in urging her to assume a leadership which can not be mistaken in the new order of Europe."

"America is Italy's friend. Her people are drawn, millions strong, from Italy's own fair countryside. She is linked in blood, as well as in affection, with the Italian people. Such ties can never be broken. And America was privileged, by the generous commission of her associates in the war, to initiate the peace we are about to consummate—to initiate it upon terms which she had herself formulated under which I was her spokesman."

"The compulsion is upon her to square every decision she takes a part in with those principles. She can do nothing else. She trusts Italy, and in her trust believes that Italy will ask nothing of her that can not be made unmistakably consistent with those sacred obligations."

"The interests are not now in question, but the rights of peoples, of states, new and old, of liberated peoples and peoples whose rulers have never accounted them worthy of a right; above all the right of the world to peace and to such settlements of interests as shall make peace secure."

"These, and these only, are the principles for which America has fought. These, and these only, are the principles upon which she can consent to make peace. Only upon these principles she hopes and believes will the people of Italy ask her to make peace."

London, March 25.—The government has moved forward the evening hour for the sale of intoxicants so that the thirsty Briton now may purchase his drink at 6 p. m., instead of 5:30. No drinks may be obtained after 9:30 except in clubs and hotels where the sale is permitted until 11 p. m.

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Memorial and Thanksgivings Services.

Great Public Services For Sunday Afternoon In Which The Whole County Is Expected to Take Part—Monday Day of Great Celebration.

All of Sumter County is expected to gather on the School Square at four Sunday afternoon to give thanks for the safe return of the great number of Sumter County men who returned safely from the War, and to join in the services that will be in memoriam of those that fell. The program is as follows:

Hymn—America
Invocation—Father Mahoney
Hymn
Address—Chaplain J. S. Lyon of the 118th Regt., Thirtieth Division.
Roll Call of the Dead—Dr. S. H. Edmunds.
Taps.
Prayer—Rev. J. A. Rice.
Star Spangled Banner.
Benediction—Rev. W. E. Thayer.

The singing will be by the united choirs of the various churches of the city, and also by all of those who will be kind enough to join in. The music will be by the High School Orchestra, reinforced by a few of Sumter's adult musicians. The exercises will be presided over by Rev. J. H. Wilson. In case of rain the exercises will be held in Trinity Methodist Church.

If anyone has neglected so far to hand in the name of his dead, whether of disease in camp, at home, or in battle abroad, this should be done without further delay. No name of the dead should be omitted on this occasion because of indifference to the dead.

Monday's Big Celebration.

Monday is to be nothing but a day of joy and celebration. All the county is supposed to come to town, and bring a basket with him, with her or with them, as the case may be. The picnic dinner is to be spread on the School Square and everyone is to eat. The soldiers and the sailors are to be the guests of honor.

The soldiers and the sailors are to parade Monday morning and everyone can see what Sumter County sent to oppose the Huns, and then they will understand why the Boche quit instead of fighting it out. A big brass band from Camp Jackson will be here to make the noise of the occasion. A fighting tank will be here roaming through the streets of Sumter hunting Hun machine guns to mop up. During the day the great government picture, The Price of Peace will show in Sumter, admission free. Some short addresses will be made in the morning. Governor Cooper will probably be one of the speakers. In the afternoon there will be a ball game between the Sumter team and a Service team. At night there will be open air dancing. There will be no business conducted in Sumter that day.

Those who stay away will do so at the price of a good time.

Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Program Arranged for Meeting Of Episcopal Church Body in Sumter

The 34th annual convention of the South Carolina branch of the woman's auxiliary to the board of missions, Episcopal Church, will be held in the Church of the Holy Comforter May 21, 22, 23, with Mrs. W. P. Cornell, presiding.

The Rt. Rev. W. A. Guerry, D. D., bishop of the diocese of South Carolina, will address the convention and will attend the business sessions.

The clergy of the diocese, the voting delegates to the convention and visiting members of the auxiliary will be welcomed and entertained by the branch in Sumter.

A program of marked excellence has been arranged, including devotional services, educational sessions, speakers from outside the diocese, an elaborate missionary exposition and an afternoon reception.

The session of the junior department will be held on Thursday and the women of the auxiliary are expected to attend this session. The largest attendance in the history of the auxiliary is anticipated.

Can't Make Liquor At Home

Heavy Fines for Those Operating Still at Their Houses

Washington, April 23.—Persons who may be planning to make liquor in their own homes after national prohibition becomes effective July 1 are to be warned by revenue authorities as to the penalties to which they will be subject. The internal revenue bureau today sent to revenue collectors and agents a summary of laws on the subject and penalties, with the suggestion that they may be known widely.

The schedule of penalties for various violations is as follows:

For failure to register still, \$500 penalty, fine of between \$100 and \$1,000 and imprisonment of between one month and two years; for making liquor in a community where it is prohibited by local or State laws, tax of \$1,000; for violating war-time prohibition, \$1,000 fine, or one year imprisonment, or both; for making a whiskey mash or a beer, fine of between \$500 and \$5,000, and imprisonment of between six months and three years.

Beer-making comes within the same prohibitions.

An Appeal to Arms

Italians Plan to Throw Two Hundred Thousand Men Into Disputed Territory

Paris, April 24.—Italian forces will occupy that part of Dalmatia and other Adriatic territory named in the pact of London with about one hundred thousand men, it was stated today by Captain Pozzi, of Premier Orlando's staff. A similar force was added and would be sent to the northern region and around Fiume.

Change of Hours For Drinks in London.

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Surplus of Wheat in England

Granaries Stacked, and Farmers Have Difficulty in Disposing Of Crop

London, March 20 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—The British farmer is suffering from the fact that the government had stacked the granaries of Great Britain with wheat in preparation for a great spring offensive against the Germans this year. Now that the offensive is not to be undertaken, the farmer is having difficulty in selling his crop of last year's wheat.

Explaining the situation at the annual dinner of the Land Union recently, Lord Ermo, formerly Robert E. Prothero, president of the Board of Agriculture, said "I do not know that I am revealing a secret when I say that the government intended, if the war had not finished in November, to make its great 'push' about this time. In this month or next month we should have tried to place on the western front the whole force of the Allies we could command and should have tried to bring the war to a conclusion this summer."

"For that purpose we wanted the absolute control of all the tonnage we could get. We wanted every ship to be free to bring over munitions, food and everything else which the army required. For that reason we brought into this country a large quantity of food supplies. If our shipping was to be engaged in bringing over food to this country in the middle of that military push we should have been hampered."

"The consequence was that we filled the granaries of this country with wheat in order that we should be free for this great military enterprise. You cannot alter your plans in a few hours. The wheat is now being passed into consumption 'as quickly as possible.'"

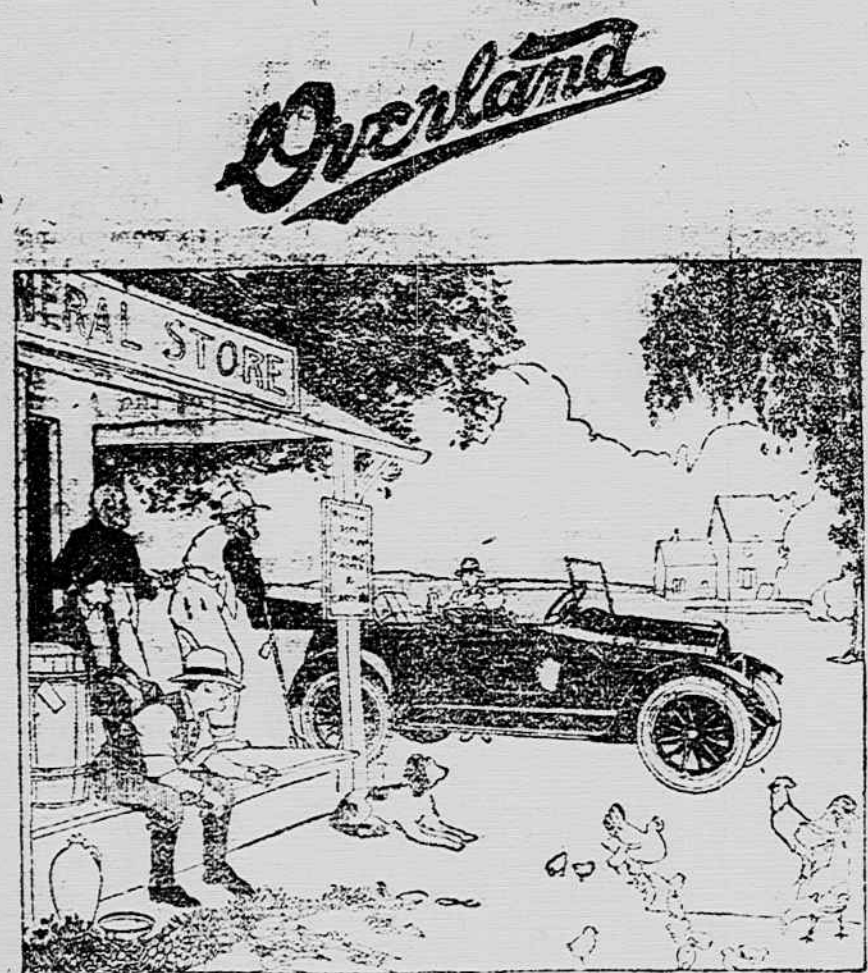
Y. M. C. A. in Russia

Sausage Factory and Bakery Operated by German Prisoners For Benefit of Czech Army

Chelibinsk, Russia, Feb. 20.—Kenneth Miller, formerly head of John Huss settlement at New York city, is now directing an American Young Men's Christian Association enterprise at Chelibinsk which is greatly appreciated by the Czech-Slovak troops. Having lived in Bohemia he knows what best pleases the Czech army and so he established a sausage factory and bakery. The sausage factory is turning out tons of sausages and does a business of 300,000 rubles monthly. The work is done by twenty-five German and Austrian prisoners.

Every day the bakery is making eight thousand of the rolls so popular in Prague. Everything is sold at cost. In this practical manner, Mr. Miller has "made good" with the Bohemians and people generally. It was at Chelibinsk that Czech-Slovak troops inaugurated their campaign against the Bolsheviks and Magyars.

Paris, April 24.—Premier Orlando reiterated this morning that he would leave Paris today, his departure being set for 2 o'clock this afternoon. He added, however: "We do not break with our allies, but hand over our interest into their hands, trusting that they will loyally fulfill their mission."



"Public Opinion"

In awakening public appreciation to the economical value of the automobile in general, the 600,000 Overlands now in use have played an important part. Model 90 is a car of such attractive appearance and sterling performance that owners everywhere praise its economy and practical value. It has power in abundance and luxurious comfort that make staunch friends. Public approval thus won and expressed is your safe guide in selecting a car. Now is the time for a Model 90.

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Capital, \$200,000.00

Surplus and Profits 207,000.00

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President

F. E. MINNANT,
Cashier